

DEILEPHILA ELPENOR L. ON MENYANTHES TRIFOLIATA L. — Eight nearly full grown larvae of *Deilephila elpenor* were seen feeding on bog-bean *Menyanthes trifoliata* at the Royal Horticultural Society's Garden at Wisley on 29th August, 1978. They were seen from the path so probably several more could have been found with a little effort. Mr. A. J. Halstead tells me that the insect is fairly common at Wisley but has not previously been noted on *Menyanthes*. It normally feeds on members of the Onagraceae — *Epilobium* spp. *Chamaenerion angustifolium*, *Circaea lutetiana* and *Fuchsia magellanica* — but also on *Galium* spp. and *Impatiens* spp. and has been recorded on *Lysimachia* sp., *Vitis vinifera* and *Malus* sp. These belong to seven different orders of flowering plants, the Geraniales, Rhamnales, Rosales, Myrtales, Primulales, Convolvulaceae and Rubiales which is an exceptional degree of polyphagy for British Sphingidae. — B. N. K. DAVIS, Institute of Terrestrial Ecology, Monks Wood Experimental Station, Abbots Ripton, Huntingdon, Cambs.

THE MONARCH, DANAUS PLEXIPPUS L. IN 1978. — A specimen of this butterfly was observed by Mrs. Y. Stevens in her garden at Epsom, Surrey on the afternoon of the 11th September, 1978. Mrs. Stevens gave a good description of the insect, including its mode of flight and positively identified it as a male when shown these in my collection.

Williams (1958, *Insect Migration*) states that most examples of the species observed in this country are seen in the autumn with a peak in the second half of September, but I am concerned about the possibility that releases or accidental escapes from captivity may sometimes give rise to inaccurate reports of implied migration. If anybody reading this has allowed specimens of the species to escape this year, I strongly feel that this should be reported in the interests of scientific accuracy. — P. HOLDAWAY, 41 Willow Crescent, Durrington, Worthing, Sussex.

NEW IRISH RECORDS OF MICROLEPIDOPTERA IN AUGUST. — On 3.viii.78, I took a specimen of the Pyralid *Platytes alpinella* (Hb.) on sandhills at Inchydoney, near Clonakilty, Co. Cork (VC H3). The identification of this specimen was confirmed by Mr. E. C. Pelham-Clinton of the Royal Scottish Museum, Edinburgh.

Another species determined by Mr. Pelham-Clinton and which appears new to Ireland is *Cochylis flaviciliata* (Westw.). I caught this specimen at The Hollow 6 km N.W. of Roscommon (VC H25) on 9.viii.78. — K. G. M. BOND, Luetzowstr. 4, 32 Hildesheim, West Germany.

RECORDS OF CURCULIONIDAE (COL.) TAKEN IN CUMBERLAND (VC70). — The following three species of Curculionidae are here recorded from West Cumbria and are new records for Cumberland (VC70). *Barypeithes sulcifrons* (Boheman), one dead specimen was found on sand below a stunted gorse bush *Ulex europaeus* Linnaeus on top of a coastal sand hill on 15th April near Summer Hill, Silcroft, SD11/82. This species is regarded as scarce in this country and Joy (1932, *Practical*